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HOLIDAYS WITH THE SYMPHONY

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS • MUSIC DIRECTOR

LIGHT UP YOUR SEASON this winter at the San Francisco Symphony. With the clink of a glass, toast to the magic of the holidays and celebrate the music sure to light up your night. 'Tis the season to shine.

NATALIE COLE WITH THE SFS
NOV 25 8PM
Don't miss Natalie Cole with the SF Symphony, performing an evening of audience favorites and heartwarming classics.

CHRIS BOTTI WITH THE SFS
DEC 4 7:30PM • **DEC 5** 7:30PM
Swing to the sophisticated sounds of America's best-selling jazz instrumentalist in these magnetic must-hear performances!

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN
FILM WITH THE SFS
DEC 6 7:30PM • **DEC 7** 7:30PM
The SF Symphony performs the score to the legendary Hollywood musical *Singin' in the Rain*, turning a night
at the movies into a dazzling night out in the city.

DECK THE HALL
DEC 8 11AM • 3PM
Treat your children to the festive concert featuring the music of the season performed by the SF Symphony and special guests.

MARIACHI SOL DE MÉXICO® DE JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ
DEC 8 8PM
Hear holiday favorites from the U.S. and Mexico, traditional Mexican music, and more, as these blazing performers take the stage.

DIANNE REEVES WITH THE SFS
DEC 11 7:30PM
Dianne Reeves brings her elegant style of jazz to the SF Symphony in a performance of standards and holiday songs.

OZOMATLI WITH THE SFS
DEC 12 7:30PM
Celebrate the sounds of the season with the Grammy award-winning, cross-cultural party band Ozomatli.

BURT BACHARACH WITH THE SFS
DEC 13 8PM • **DEC 14** 8:30PM
Enjoy a festive evening when the ever-brilliant Bacharach performs two wonderful nights of holiday cheer.

PETER AND THE WOLF
WITH JOHN LITHGOW
DEC 14 1PM • 4PM
Delight your children with our annual presentation of *Peter and the Wolf*, narrated by John Lithgow.

PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND: A CREOLE CHRISTMAS
DEC 15 8PM
Celebrate the joyful spirit of the French Quarter, and have yourself a jazzy little Christmas.

COLORS OF CHRISTMAS
DEC 16 8PM • **DEC 17** 8PM • **DEC 18** 8PM
Grammy award-winner Peabo Bryson, CeCe Winans, Melissa Manchester, and American Idol-winner Ruben Studdard perform an unforgettable evening of pop hits and Christmas favorites.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH
DEC 19 8PM • **DEC 20** 8PM • **DEC 21** 8PM
Handel's *Messiah* holds a place of reverence in the canon for its universal appeal and timeless expression.

ALL IS BRIGHT
WITH THE SFS: A CHRISTMAS MATINEE WITH THE SNOWMAN
DEC 20 2PM • **DEC 21** 2PM
Don't miss this surprise-filled concert, when the spirit of the season lights up the hall like never before.

'TWAS THE NIGHT
DEC 22 4PM • **DEC 23** 8PM • **DEC 24** 11AM
Delight in a warm and intimate program, and sing along with your favorite holiday tunes.

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASQUERADE BALL
DEC 31 9PM • DOORS OPEN AT 8PM
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Season's greetings

Welcome to Holiday Guide 2013 — your reminder that even though we lack snow, sleighs, reindeer, or (in many cases) chimneys large enough to fit a certain roly-poly gentleman through, there's still enough going on in the Bay Area to make your season bright.

Giant menorah lightings, Kwanzaa-based comedies, "Nutcrackers" for all ages and appetites .... our events guide will fill your holidays with jolly. And our gift guides will help you stack joy beneath the tree, with affordable (and luxury) suggestions for foodies, tech lovers, music fiends, and more.

Here's to happy and warm times.
Wishing you all the best this season,

SAN FRANCISCO MEDIA CO.

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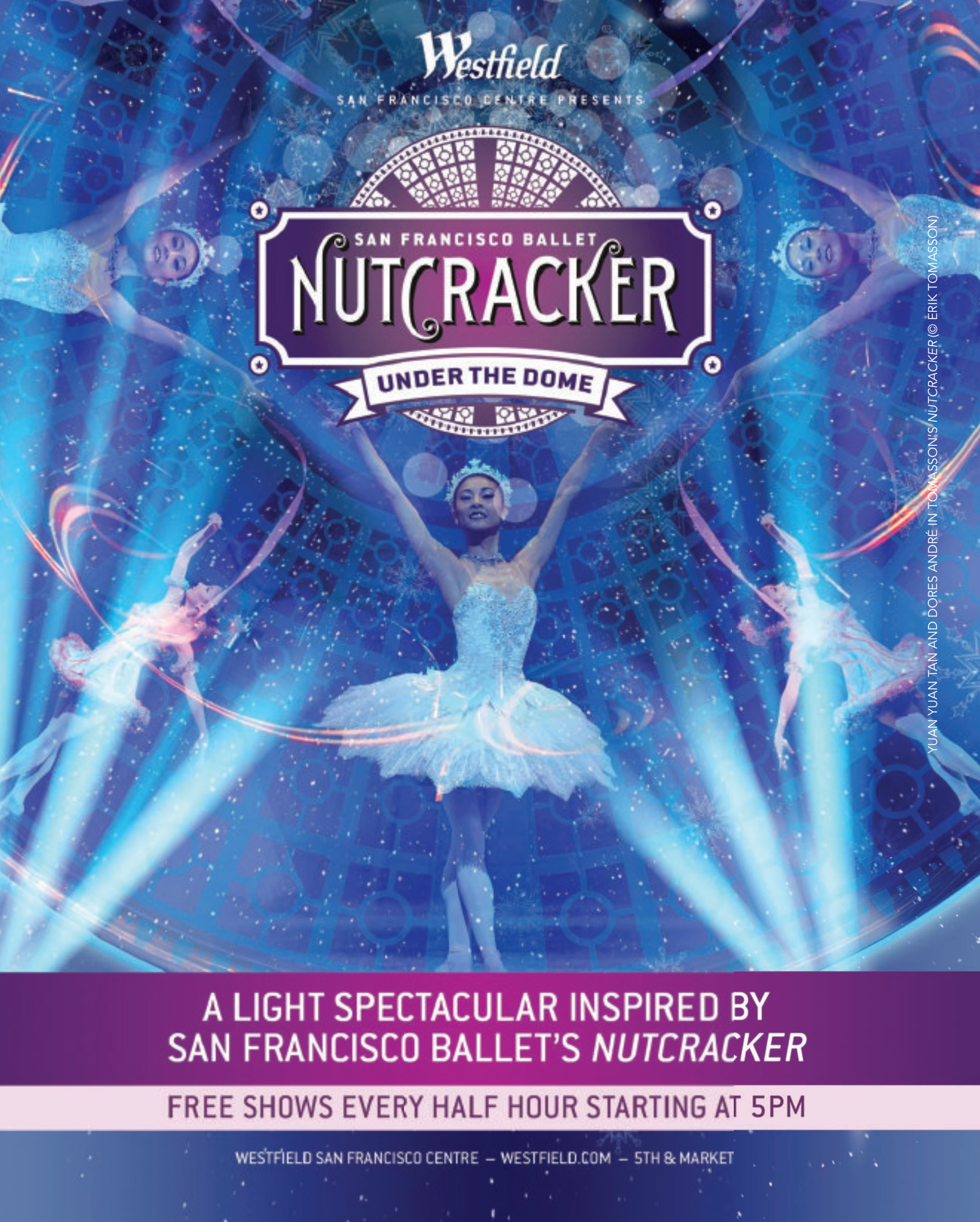
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YUAN YUAN TAN AND DORES ANDRÉ IN TOMASSON'S *NUTCRACKER* (© ERIK TOMASSON)

Leave Your Heart

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: DECORATED SKULLS AT PAXTON GATE; SF BAY AREA LOCAL FOODS WHEEL; BUTCHERY CLASSES AT FATTED CALF; RARE DEVICE COLOGNE; COFFEE GRINDER FROM SIGHTGLASS COFFEE; BOWTIE FROM WOOD THUMB

Only in SF

BY LAUREN GALLAGHER • SF EXAMINER

Heeding the cry "shop local," here's an array of San Francisco-centric items for the city's diverse and dynamic dwellers.

PAXTON GATE HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

New stuff this season from the curiosity shop selling items from the natural world — and much more — includes: decorated skulls ($1,000-$1,500), a Citrine Point Ring ($295) with a "Game of Thrones" flair, and ceramic plant pods ($88-$275) — perfect for succulents.

Paxton Gate, 824 Valencia, SF. (415) 824-1872, www.paxtongate.com

PAUL'S HAT WORKS HATS

The Outer Richmond shop continues the tradition started 95 years ago when Peruvian hatmaker Napoleon Marquez founded the store. Now run by four fashionistas, the milliners craft handmade hats in all the classic styles as well as create custom designs. Starting at $250 and up.

Paul's Hat Works, 6128 Geary Blvd., SF. (415) 221-5332, www.hatworksbypaul.com

LOMOGRAPHY FILM SERVICE

A great gift for analogue shutterbugs, Lomography's new subscription service offers monthly bundles for 35mm, 110 and 120 film and variety packs. Each shipment includes a free bonus roll, and after six months, a free camera. $8.90-$24.90.

www.lomography.com

HOLIDAY FIZZ COLLECTION

Pop shop the Fizzary offers a seasonal four-pack of Taylor's Tonics sodas including the flavors Gingerbread House, Eggnog Fizz, Candy Cane Shake, and Cranberry Dream. $6.

The Fizzary, 2949 Mission, SF. (877) 368-4608, www.taylorstonics.com

COFFEE GRINDERS

City roaster Sightglass Coffee sells the portable Porlex Mini Mill ($65) for grinding on the go, while old-school types can get their fix in the antique jumble at Cookin'.

Sightglass Coffee, 270 Seventh St, SF. (415) 861-1313, www.sightglasscoffee.com; Cookin', 339 Divisadero St., SF. (415) 861-1854

WOOD TIE, HOMEBREW DICE GAME

Hipster overload is complete with Wood Thumb's bowtie made from reclaimed wood in San Francisco. The local brand also makes Roll and Brew, a game that dishes out homebrew recipes with a shake, rattle, and roll. $31.99-$35.99.

www.woodthumb.com

SAN FRANPSYCHO CLOTHING

The apparel and lifestyle brand's expanding line includes Niners-colored baseball tees, fingerless gloves, and the classic logo on everything, even onesies.

San Franpsycho, 505 Divisadero St., S.F., (415) 829-7874, www.sanfranpsycho.com

RETOOL SEAT BELT WALLET

Made from recycled seatbelts, the made-in-S.F. wallets are designed with a retro, 1980s Velcro-wallet feel. $40.

California Made Mercantile, 541 Octavia St., S.F., (415) 621-7718, www.camademtl.com

CARTOLINA IPHONE CASE

Available in iPhone 4/4s and iPhone 5/5s sizes, the slick, hard-wearing case has vintage fonts and imagery in a wraparound design that shows the city some love. $34.95.

Maido, 1581 Webster, SF. (415) 567-8901, www.mymaido.com; www.cartolina.com

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA LOCAL FOOD WHEEL

Sold at many local bookstores and grocery stores, such as Bi-Rite and Rainbow Grocery, this handy volvelle (chart wheel) shows what is in season and when. $12.95.

www.localfoodswheel.com

FATTED CALF CLASSES

Meat is in the spotlight at Fatted Calf, the local charcuterie that offers free butchery demonstrations on Wednesdays, as well as classes in how to carve up a duck, make pate and charcuterie, and butcher whole hogs. $175.

Fatted Calf, 320 Fell St, SF. (415) 400-5614, www.fattedcalf.com

BERKELEY WEIRDOS POSTER

Designed by illustrator Jayde Cardinalli, the screen print poster highlights lovable locals that make Berkeley the quirky hot spot it is. $35.

www.theboldditalic.com/shop

TEA

Artisan tea house Leland Tea Company sells film-inspired teas like Bogart, Casablanca, Dietrich, Garbo's Peachy Blend, and Ginger Rogers for a glamorous teatime. T-We Tea makes a San Francisco-themed tea tower, with blends called Hipsters in Wonderland and Dolores Day — named for the park. $15-$25.

Leland Tea Company, 1416 Bush, SF. (415) 346-4832; T-We-Tea, Crocker Galleria, 50 Post, SF. www.t-wetea.com

RARE DEVICE COLOGNE

San Francisco-based L'Aromatica Perfume has crafted four unique scents — two woody, one aquatic, one citrusy — only available at Rare Device. $60.

Rare Device, 600 Divisadero St., S.F., (415) 863-3969, www.raredevice.net □

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Bleep-bleep

Let's talk tech

BY LAUREN GALLAGHER • SF EXAMINER

Here are a few ideas for geeks desiring the utmost in quality or the ultimate in sleek packaging.

QUAD ESL 2905 SPEAKERS

The British brand continues to make the world's highest quality, full-range electrostatic speakers. Sophisticated listeners have been turning to Quad for years for the ultimate sonic experience. $12,071.

www.quad-hifi.co.uk

DR. WHO: THE VAULT

The coffee-table book covers the British TV's full *Dr. Who* history, from its embryonic days on sketchy storyboards in the early 1960s to the present day, including exclusive interviews and photographs with cast, prop information, photos, and much more. $45.

The Booksmith, 1644 Haight, SF. (415) 863-8688, www.booksmith.com

MOTOROLA MOTO X

The first smartphone to be designed and assembled in the U.S., the Android Moto X offers dizzying customizations for AT&T customers, with additional models offered for most major networks. The camera turns on with the mere flick of a wrist. $99.99 and up.

www.motorola.com, www.bestbuy.com

POWEROCKS BATTERY

The Rose Stone by Powerocks packs a punch. The tiny lithium ion battery can wirelessly charge most smartphones two or three times before running out of juice. The dual USB ports allow a phone and tablet to charge simultaneously. $69.99.

www.powerocksusa.com

NUMARK MIXTRACK EDGE CONTROLLER

A DJ's dream (and roughly the size of an iPad), Numark's new controller is streamlined, USB-powered, slim (14mm), has hot cue, loop, and sample controls, and a built-in audio interface for headphone queuing and output. $150.

www.planetdj.com

FROM TOP: PENTAX Q10 CAMERA; MOTOROLA X SMARTPHONES, POWEROCKS BATTERY; NUMARK MIXTRACK EDGE CONTROLLER

CONTINUES ON PAGE 10 >>

49TH ANNUAL GHIRARDELLI SQUARE TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

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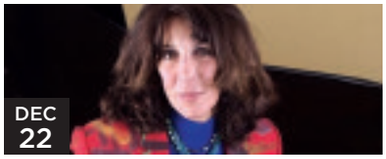

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WINDHAM HILL WINTER SOLSTICE CONCERT

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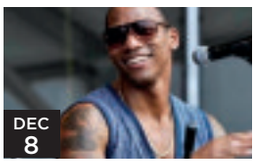

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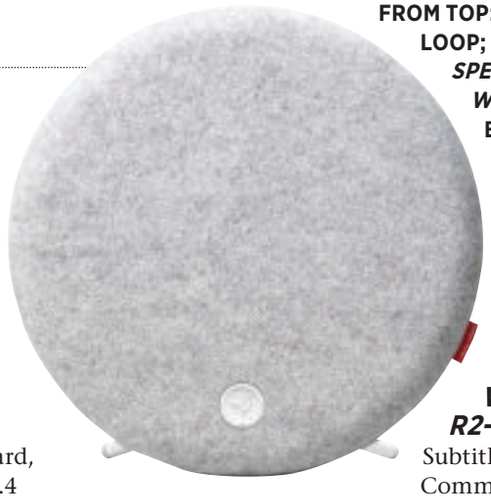
LET'S TALK TECH, CONTINUED>>



FROM TOP: LIBRATONE LOOP; *HOW TO SPEAK DROID WITH R2-D2*; BOSE NOISE CANCELING HEAD-PHONES

PENTAX Q10

One of the world's smallest and lightest interchangeable lens cameras, the Pentax Q10 comes in 100 color combinations. Slightly larger than a credit card, the Q10 has 12.4 megapixels, a pop-up flash, shake reduction, a 27.5-83mm lens (35mm equivalent) with 3X zoom, a 3-inch LCD display and RAW/JPEG capabilities. $348.

www.bhphotovideo.com

HOW TO SPEAK DROID WITH R2-D2

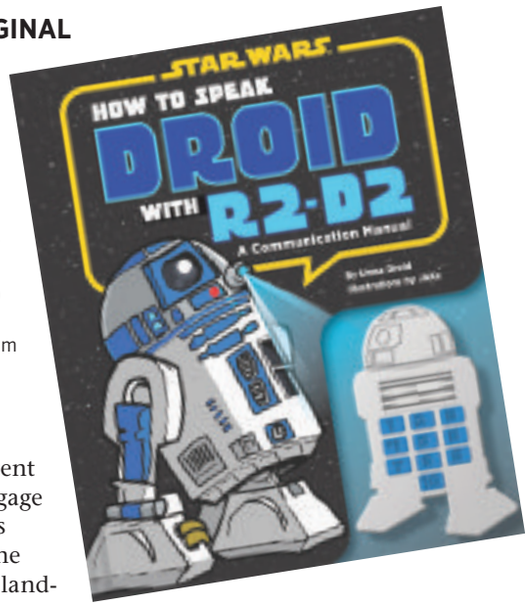
Subtitled "A Communication Manual," this book from Chronicle Books comes with interactive buttons to help teach the reader droid-speak, making it a laughably noisy gift. $16.95.

www.chroniclebooks.com

STAR TREK: THE ORIGINAL TOPPS TRADING CARD SERIES

A great gift for any Trekkie, this little book reproduces every Star Trek Topps card with accompanying facts and history. $19.95.

Alexander Book Company, 50 Second St, SF, (415) 495-2992, www.alexanderbook.com



TRAKDOT TRACKING DEVICE

A great gift for the frequent traveler, Trakdot is a luggage tracking device that slips into any bag and texts the owner its location upon landing. $50.

www.trakdot.com

LIBRATONE LOOP

The Danish company makes a wireless stereo speaker with a 120-watt amplifier, woofer, and its patented FullRoom sound, boasting hi-fi surround. It connects to all iPhones, iPads, Androids, PCs/Macs and uses AirPlay to stream from any Spotify, Pandora, or other Internet radio accounts. $499.95.

www.libratone.com

BOSE QUIET COMFORT 20 ACOUSTIC NOISE CANCELING EARPHONES

Known for high-quality audio products, the company offers its first noise-canceling in-earphones with a unique "Aware" mode allowing certain sounds, like sirens, to come through. $299.

Available at Best Buy, www.bestbuy.com □

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FROM LEFT: ONE CUP SAKES, PEANUT BRITTLE, THE TEATANIC TEA INFUSER. PHOTOS BY EMILY SAVAGE, KAYLEN BAKER, AND COURTESY OF VENDORS

Nifty gifts under $10

BY EMILY SAVAGE • SF BAY GUARDIAN

If you're lucky enough to have a bevy of friends, family, and lovers, the holidays can get expensive. Especially if you're hoping to celebrate your relationship with every person (and creature) with a small token of your affection. Here's an easy way to keep up the cuteness and keep down the costs with handmade, DIY, or local indie store-sold gifts.

ONE CUP SAKES, $5–$8

Not only the first solely sake-dedicated store in SF but in the entire country, True Sake began as a way for owner Beau Timken to teach people about the production, discerning flavors, and tasting methods of this Japanese spirit. And what better way to taste a bunch of different varieties over the holidays than in can-sized bottles? The more the merrier!

True Sake, 560 Hayes, SF. www.truesake.com

FLOSS GLOSS NAIL POLISH, $8

Not only are these slick colors (baby blue Waveblue, neon red Fast Lane, peachy Pony, gold-glitter Stun) locally made — they're also cruelty- and harmful chemical-free. And they sell for under $10. It's an all-around win for your friend's flashy new nails, for your wallet, and for furry little creatures.

Rare Device, 600 Divisadero, SF. www.raredevice.net

SEX FORTUNES, $7.95

This present should come in handy for you both (or you three, or...). Sex Fortunes is a classy little crimson booklet full of naughty fortunes with "erotic predictions and unexpected suggestions." Gift it to a loved one to spice up weekly sex-play, or a new crush as an incredibly obvious hint.

Good Vibrations, various locations, SF. www.goodvibes.com

GREEN APPLE "ORIGINAL" CANVAS BAG, $7.95

Grab the original canvas bag from this beloved Bay Area books and music store, because how else is your loved one going to haul his or her books and electronic devices across town? Plus, the Green Apple original tote bag has a groovy vintage SF design and the cute motto "So Many Books, So Little Time" — so it gives your pal some intellectual street cred. There are also variations on the classic, including one adorned with a rendering by local artist Paul "All Over Coffee" Madonna ($9.95).

Green Apple Book, 505 Clement, SF. www.greenapplebooks.com.

TEATANIC, $10

Your pop can sip his tea and reference large ships *and* Leo DiCaprio culture with the Teatanic tea infuser. He can fill the infuser's hull with loose leaves and let the stately ship gracefully glide toward the rough waters of his mug, the warm aromas of brewed tea rising back toward the top. Set sail for warm tummies, but watch those icebergs.

Heartfelt, 436 Cortland, SF. www.heartfeltsf.com

ALPHABET BUTTONS, $1

What better way to spell out your love for people than with tiny lettered buttons for their lapels? And as these little typographic trinkets are cheap, you can buy up enough to give your pal a verbose sentence on his or her pea coat.

Needles and Pens, 3253 16th St, SF. www.needles-pens.com.

PEANUT BRITTLE, $5

So the liquid nitrogen-frozen Sticky Toffee Pudding ice cream you brought home from Smitten Ice Cream will melt long before it makes it inside the Christmas stockings. But the peanut, pistachio, and almond brittle (it's a gamble, depending on what's in stock) tastes great sprinkled over a banana split, smothered in melted chocolate, or on its own, right out of the bag.

Smitten Ice Cream, 432 Octavia #1A, SF. www.smittenicecream.com

BAGGU, $9

Baggu comes in many bright colors and patterns. Baggu helps you organize your life. What is Baggu? It's a simple, durable, stylish nylon bag that shrinks to a tiny folded envelope, then unfurls into a sack that holds your fresh fruits and veggies (or whatever you should need to transport). The best part is there are Baggus of a great many varieties and shades (Sailor Stripe, Neon Cat, Seahorse, Paint It Black). And while they're made in Brooklyn, they're sold at local Bay Area shops including Rare Device (see above). Plus, you can get a custom-designed bag for the pickiest of pals.

Various SF shops. www.baggu.com □

'Tis the Season *for Science*

November 27–January 5

Meet live reindeer and learn how they survive and thrive in Arctic conditions at our annual holiday exhibit. Explore indoor snow flurries, festive programs, and more.

Get tickets at **calacademy.org**.

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
Golden Gate Park

FROM LEFT: BOURBON AND BRANCH; CAPOCOLLO FROM BOCCALONE; *MODERN ART DESSERTS*; KIKA'S TREATS FROM LA COCINA

Food, classes, and art-cakes

BY ANNA ROTH • SF WEEKLY

In some ways, food people are the easiest to buy gifts for: There are a lot of delicious things in the world. But to really impress the discerning foodie, you need to pull out all the stops. Any true connoisseur of cured meat will appreciate a membership in the **Boccalone Salumi Society** ($58–$66, Ferry Building Marketplace, Shop 25, SF. www.boccalone.com), a monthly delivery of "tasty salted pig parts" to his or her door for up to a year.

While you're in the Ferry Building, put together a sampler of sweet products from the nonprofit **La Cocina** kiosk. You can't go wrong with the coconutty-chocolatey Kika's Treats, buttery shortbread Clairesquares, and caramely alfajores from Sabores del Sur. Plus, the money goes to help fund the food entrepreneur incubator ($5.50–$7.99, www.lacocinasf.org).

Got a drinker in your life? Sign 'em up for **Bourbon and Branch's Beverage Academy** ($100, www.beverageacademy.com), throw in a gift certificate to premium booze store **Cask** (17 Third St, SF. www.caskstore.com), and if you're lucky, you'll get to taste their homework. Even out-of-town relatives who haven't moved beyond Folgers in the morning will appreciate the light roast of Ritual Coffee, in the form of monthly delivery from the **Ritual Coffee Club** ($20 per delivery, www.ritualroasters.com/coffee-club).

And the fussiest, most OCD baker in your circle will gush over ***Modern Art Desserts*** ($25), Caitlin Freeman's photo-heavy 2013 cookbook chronicling the art-inspired desserts she created during her time in the SFMOMA Blue Bottle café. A slice or two of Mondrian cake is guaranteed to class up any holiday gathering. □

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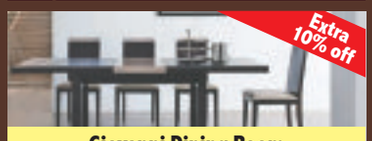

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Fa-La-La

Music, short-shorts, and rap-wine

BY IAN S. PORT • SF WEEKLY

Gifting "Actual Music" might seem anachronistic in 2013, but these are retro-maniacal times. And besides, anyone who knows their Jimmy Page from their John Bonham will appreciate sound-producing wax discs as rare and lovely as the ***I Need You Bad*** compilation of underground SF rock curated by none other than Sonny Smith of Sonny and the Sunsets (out Nov. 26, www.ineedyoubad.com). The release is limited to 1,000 copies on green vinyl, making it as much an art object as a music recording — although with contributions from rising bands like Cool Ghouls and Warm Soda, it'll provide sonic pleasures to match the tactile ones. And if you want to contribute music but don't know a person's taste, consider a gift certificate and/or T-shirt, bootie shorts, or other merchandise from odd music temple **Aquarius Records** (1055 Valencia, SF. www.aquariusrecords.org) or the massive and ever-reliable **Amoeba Music** (1055 Haight, SF. www.amoeba.com).

But don't limit yourself to Actual Music when there's so much other stuff the record obsessive in your life probably doesn't have already — like the book of photographs by Thee Oh Sees frontman and SF rock god John Dwyer. It's called ***Vinegar Mirror*** (available at Vacation, 651 Larkin, SF. www.vacation-sf.com) and features 225 image-filled pages of Dwyer and rocker friends like Ty Segall and Mike Donovan messing around on tour. It's a testament to the man's eye as a photographer that his photos of drunken musicians look so... arty.

Of course, there's also a vast array of consumable gifts related to music. The most timely (and hilarious) would be any bottle from East Bay rap godfather E-40's new wine collection. **Earl Stevens Selections** (www.earlstevensselections.com) offers three varietals: Moscato, Mangoscato, or the aptly named Function Red Blend, titled for the rapper's ubiquitous radio hit from last year. The bottles look classy enough to camouflage with other wines at a party, but anyone who knows her Bay Area hip-hop (or has KMEL programmed into his car radio) should find one bottle in particular hella dope.

Lastly, if your person's tastes are a little more discerning, you could always get them a subscription to the monthly pairings box from local food and music blog **Turntable Kitchen** (www.turntablekitchen.com/pairings-box). For $25 a month, Turntable Kitchen will send out a 7-inch vinyl single, an exclusive digital mixtape, 1-2 premium dried cooking ingredients, three recipes, plus pairing and tasting notes, all of which should combine to create a unique, food-and-music experience for the recipient.

They'll be regaled with all that bounty, and you, gift-giver, will have won the holidays with music. □

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UPCOMING SHOWS

THU 11/21
THE ROCK COLLECTION
FEAT. MELVIN SEALS AND STU ALLEN

FRI 11/22
MARCUS COHEN AND THE CONGRESS
KEV CHOICE ENSEMBLE

SAT 11/23
NOBUNNY
NUBS, PRIMITIVE HEARTS, G. GREEN, DJ KEVIN SPAGHETTI

THU 12/05
GUY FOX
BONNIE AND THE BANG BANG

THU 12/12
JAMESTOWN REVIVAL
LONESOME LOCOMOTIVE, KEYAN KEIHANI

SAT 12/14
MAKRU
LAS CAFETERAS, DJ IZZYWISE

FRI 1/31
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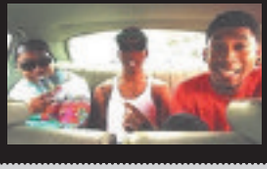
SAT 12/28 & TUE 12/31 NEW YEAR'S EVE
STU ALLEN & MARS HOTEL
PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS

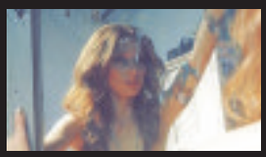
THU 12/19
MELVIN SEALS AND JGB

FRI 11/22
FOXES (UK)
ANYA KVITKA, DJ AARON AXELSEN

SUN 11/24
ELEPHANT MAN
(THE ENERGY GOD)
MEGA BANTON (SOUND BWOY KILLA)



TUE 11/26
MELLOWHIGH



THU 12/05
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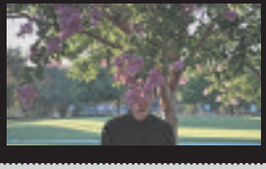
WITH DAP-KINGS SENSATION
BINKY GRIPTITE
THE GREASE TRAPS, DJ PLATURN

MON 12/30
J BOOG
MR. E



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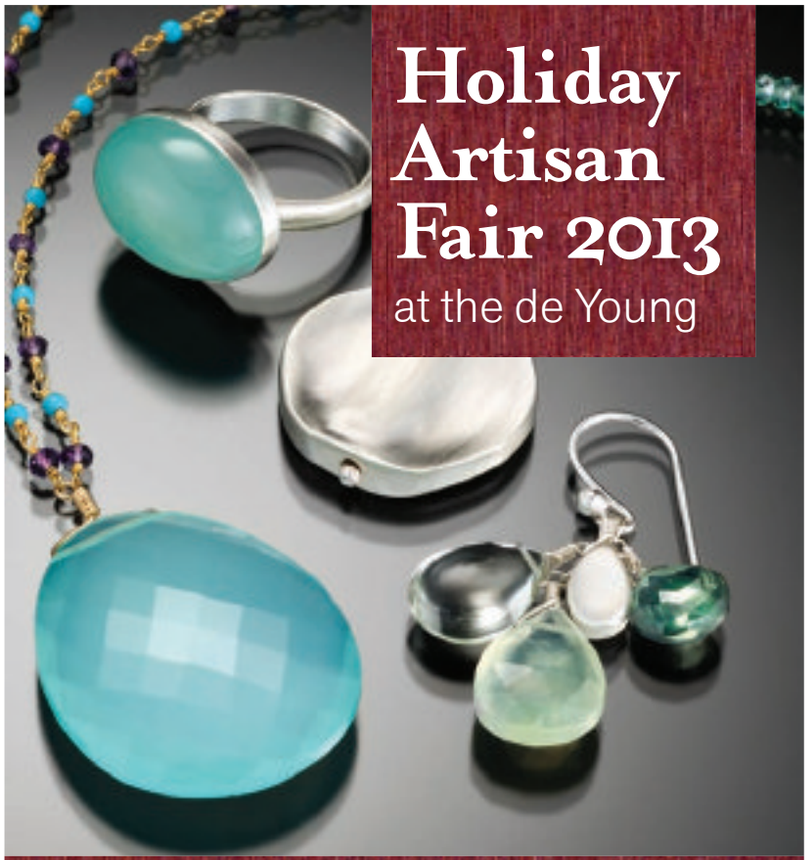

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Deluxe, delightful, de-lovely

BY LAUREN GALLAGHER • SF EXAMINER

Here are some gift suggestions for those for whom money is no object — and those who like to fantasize, too.

DIAMOND FRINGE NECKLACE

With its edgy angles and nine carats of dazzling diamonds, this Victorian necklace from Lang Antique Jewelry belies its age. $28,750.

Lang Antique Jewelry, 323 Sutter, SF. (415) 921-2213, www.langantiques.com

ORIENT EXPRESS

Train travel synonymous with glamour, luxury, and romance, the Venice Simplon Orient-Express offers first-class food, accommodations, and sightseeing. Passengers coast along in art deco carriages, visiting exotic locales. The Istanbul-Bucharest-Budapest-Venice route ($10,340) offers east-west contrast while other options include London, Paris, and Prague.

www.orient-express.com

2014 LAFERRARI

Ferrari's first hybrid car is also its fastest supercar. The 6.3-liter V12 engine has 950 horsepower, reaches 60 mph in less than three seconds, and has a top speed of 220 mph. Available for pre-order. Starts at $1,300,000.

Ferrari of San Francisco, 595 Redwood Highway, Mill Valley. (415) 524-0801, www.ferrari.com

BREGUET MOON PHASE WATCH

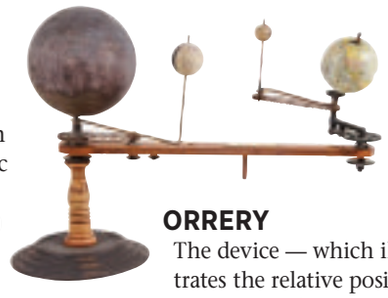
The celebrated Swiss watchmaker's Classique lunar watch features 18-carat rose gold, blue steel hands, an alligator strap and can be set with or without 92 diamonds. $29,000.

Tourbillon, 231 Post, SF. (415) 362-1525, www.tourbillon.com

TREEHOUSE HOLIDAY

Africa and Australia may be the more typical treehouse holiday destinations, but France offers a multitude of options across the country, and several just outside Paris. Starts at $130 per night.

www.lacabaneenlair.com



ORRERY

The device — which illustrates the relative positions and motions of the planets and moons — is a great teaching tool made by the Trippensee Planetarium Company circa 1908, and the perfect gift for the science nerd, curiosity collector, or amateur astronomer. $2,800.

www.1stdibs.com

ROGASKA WHISKEY DECANTER AND TUMBLERS

Handmade in Slovakia, the lead glass tumblers and decanter fuse art deco lines with mid-century robustness to make a regal and substantial statement. $90 to $275.

Gump's, 135 Post, S.F. (800) 284-8677, www.gumps.com

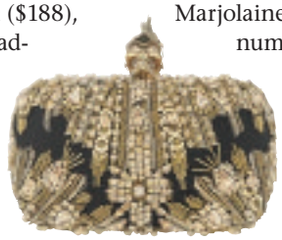
CLUTCH PURSES

The handheld bag trend continues, and Alexander McQueen makes two showstoppers:

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: A TREEHOUSE HOLIDAY; ALEXANDER MCQUEEN CLUTCH; PUBLIC BICYCLE; WHISKEY DECANTER; ORRERY; DIAMOND NECKLACE

a gothic Swarovski crystal-beaded fanfare ($2,980) and a floral Chinoiserie enamel case ($3,978). Deco divas can choose between Rafe's shell purse ($495), BCBG's Max Azria's cubist clutch ($188), and Moyna's chevron beaded bag ($160). $188 to $3,975.

Neiman Marcus, 150 Stockton, SF, (415) 362-3900, www.neimanmarcus.com



PUBLIC M8I-RIVOLI

The local cycle company updates a 1970s French style bike with bamboo fenders, an 8-speed gear system, Brooks saddle, and an ash basket. Comfortable and practical, it is designed for city use on varied surfaces. $1,499.

PUBLIC, 599 Valencia, SF, (415) 626-6099, publicbikes.com

"DIVONA" MEDIA CABINET

Designed by Maria Yee, this made-to-order sideboard, called "Divona," uses responsibly harvested elm and chestnut and all-wood joinery. Adjustable shelves make it useful for storage, and the price includes white-glove delivery and assembly services. $2,196.

Gump's, 135 Post, SF. (800) 284-8677, www.gumps.com]

EUROPEAN LINGERIE

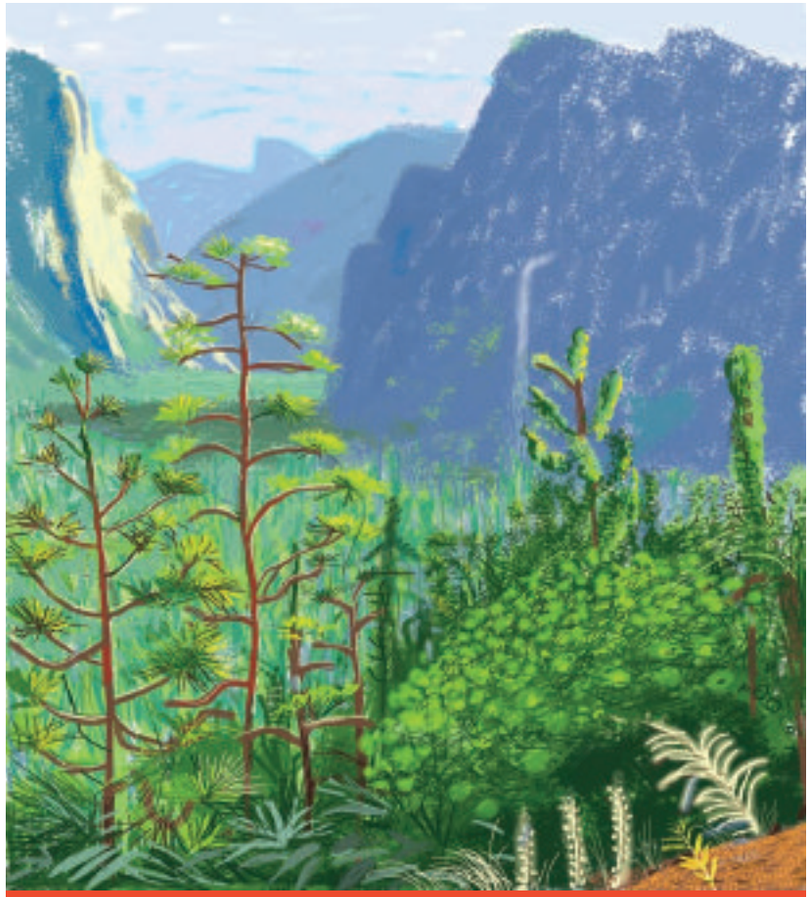
Marjolaine's gold silk slip (style number 3NUA0102 at www.cazar.de) for $269 is radiant; while Fleur of England's Belle de Nuit Guipure Baroque Bodysuit ($388) pairs plunging silk lace front panels with a slick back design. Agent Provocateur's tulle "Lenara" Soiree robe ($4,590) with copper beading represents all-out decadence. $269 to $4,590.

www.cazar.de, www.fleurofengland.com, www.agentprovocateur.com

OLD-SCHOOL ITALIAN LEATHER MESSENGER BACKPACK

Handmade in Florence, I Medici bags use organic vegetable tanning, and come in backpack, duffel, briefcase and satchel styles. $375.

www.imedicileather.com □



DAVID HOCKNEY

A BIGGER EXHIBITION

OCT 26, 2013–JAN 20, 2014

Celebrated British artist David Hockney returns to California with an exhibition assembled exclusively for the de Young. Expansive in scope and monumental in scale, this is the first comprehensive survey of his 21st-century work. Renowned for his use of traditional materials as well as evolving technologies, Hockney has created new art in an array of media, from watercolor on paper to iPad drawings, and oil on canvas to digital movies.

HERBST EXHIBITION GALLERIES

de Young

GOLDEN GATE PARK

This exhibition is organized by the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco in collaboration with the artist. Director's Circle: Penny and James George Coulter, David Davies and Jack Weeden, The Michael Taylor Trust, and Diane B. Wilsey. Curator's Circle: The Bequest of Dr. Charles L. Dibble, Ray and Dagmar Dolby, and Marissa Mayer and Zachary Bogue.

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David Hockney, *Yosemite I, October 16th 2011*. iPad drawing printed on 6 sheets of paper, mounted on 6 sheets of Dibond. © 2013 David Hockney

Hood Shopping

Castro finds

BY MATTHEW S. BAJKO • BAY AREA REPORTER

Castro merchants are hoping for better than normal holiday sales this year as they brace for construction to begin in early January on a nine-month-long streetscape makeover in the heart of the gay business district.

To entice shoppers they've stacked their store shelves with unique gifts and locally made products, from organic food items to men's clothing.

Among the items ordered specifically for Christmas at **Kenneth Wingard** (2319 Market, SF. www.kennethwingard.com) are felt coasters ($19) by Los Angeles-based Graf and Lantz. The heavy-duty "bierfilzl" are inspired by ones Bavarian taverns used for beer mugs until the late 19th century.

The shop also carries knit scarves ($39) created locally in a variety of colors ideal for the cold winter months, as well as a variety of graphic T-shirts ($29.50) made by Seattle-based Choke Shirt Co.

Another product line from Seattle that the boutique carries is Alchemy Goods. Its wallets ($39), travel-sized zipped pouches ($39), and shoulder bags ($119) are crafted from the reclaimed tubes of bike and truck tires.

Up the street at **Worn Out West: 2nd Generation** (2352 Market, SF.) can be found various Baxter Bears and Baxter Pigs ($12–$65). Made by gay San Francisco resident Marshall Baxter, who is living with AIDS and donates a portion of the proceeds to local nonprofits, each bear is one of a kind.

Baxter fashions his namesake creations from various fabrics, and customers can drop off their own material at the store and request that it be turned into a bear or pig.

The store also carries Drew Shanklin Shirts, based in San Francisco and coveted for their subtle details and bold floral and paisley prints. Each long sleeve ($98) and short sleeve ($74) shirt is handmade and 100 percent cotton.

Leather aficionados will find vests ($149) and matching jocks ($129) in either black or brown from the company 665 Leather. Less risqué is its line of T-shirts ($27–$29) created locally sporting such sayings as "Jesus is coming run bitches run!" and "Don't judge me."

Cheeky T-shirts ($25) are also being sold by **Hand Job Nails and Spa** (565 Castro, SF. www.handjobspa.com) that trumpet "I got a hand job DIV 1-A" above the salon's address. Advertised as "shorts," red and white underwear with the salon's name above the crotch and San Francisco stenciled on the left thigh is also for sale ($16).

If you have children on your list, head to **Cliff's Variety** (479 Castro, SF. www.cliffsvariety.com) where hot Christmas toys this year are Monster High dolls by Mattel ($20–$40), based on a popular web series about a group of female teens modeled after scary movie creatures.

The store has noticed that classic toys and gag gifts are also popular this year, so it has stocked such items as whoopee cushions ($1.99) and magic sets ($10–$50) to meet demand.

Cliff's shoppers who donate $5 to the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy Friday, Nov. 29 through Sunday, Dec. 1 will receive 20 percent off their purchase.

The **Human Rights Campaign's Castro store** (575 Castro, SF. shop.hrc.org) also has a variety of ways for shoppers to turn their holiday gift purchases into donations to several causes. It is selling T-shirts that say "Love Conquers Hate" in Russian ($28) with all of the proceeds donated to various LGBT groups in Russia, which has enacted draconian anti-gay laws.

It has stocked Harvey Milk rainbow mugs ($14.50) and T-shirts ($27.50), with 20 percent of the proceeds donated to the nearby Harvey Milk Academy, named after the city's first out supervisor. Another 20 percent is donated to the Harvey Milk Foundation.

Anyone who signs up to become an HRC member ($50) will receive a free "Seal of Equality" tree ornament. Or the circus seal juggling a ball can be purchased ($39) to help support the national LGBT rights group.

The new boutique **Local Take** (3979-B 17th St, SF. www.localtakesf.com) carries a wide assortment of items made locally. It sells wood ties ($38) and wood bowties ($36) by Wood Thumb that are handmade in San Francisco using 100 percent locally sourced reclaimed wood.

There are also bowties in various styles ($38) from the Bowtie Factory, handmade by Western Addition resident Chico Kikukawa. On the higher end are

WORN OUT WEST 2ND GENERATION'S COOPER LAMBANDRAKE AND JAY DABBS HOLD BAXTER BEARS.
PHOTO BY JANE PHILOMEN CLELAND

A VARIETY OF GREAT GIFTS AT KENNETH WINGARD.
PHOTO BY JANE PHILOMEN CLELAND

LOCAL TAKE CO-OWNER KYRA BROWN SHOWS OFF A ONE OF A KIND SUIT COAT.
PHOTO BY JANE PHILOMEN CLELAND

bowties made from bird feathers ($60) by Our House Vintage.

Store co-owner Kyra Brown makes belt buckles ($32) under the brand name Booty Boutique that feature designs inspired by beer labels and dogs. Her business partner, Jenn Meyer, makes appliqué baby onesies and toddler tees ($24) as well as men's and women's T-shirts ($27–$28) with various designs.

For those foodie friends, stocking-sized bags of Blue Bottle Coffee beans can be bought at the newly opened **Eureka** cafe (451 Castro, SF). The type of roast found in the one-quarter pound bags ($9) vary by the week, though the shop can order specific blends. It is also stocking Awesome Bars ($2.75–$3.25), granola-based energy snacks in various flavors made by sisters Leah and Stephanie Melni who live in San Francisco.

Several stores in the area stock products from **We Love Jam** (www.welovejam.com), a local, gay-owned company. It has a rabid international following for its jam made from Blenheim apricots, a rare varietal that used to be widely grown throughout Silicon Valley.

The jam is made from fruit picked over the course of two weeks each summer from trees in the backyard of company co-founder Phineas Hoang's family home. His business partner, Eric Haeberli, oversees the production and has branched out over the years to also make ketchup, barbecue sauce, and pickles ($8–$12).

Its line of products can be found at **Mollie Stones** (4201 18th St, SF), **Bi-Rite Market** (3639 18th St, SF), and the new **Whole Foods Market** (2001 Market, SF). Each store stocks different items.

The company is also offering specials for orders made through its website, Nov. 29 through Dec. 4. Use special password "styloo" to receive a 10 percent refund on online purchases.

At the bakery department in the new Whole Foods can be had Baum Cakes ($29.99). The Japanese-style dessert is made by Glaze bakery in Denver using its 2,200-pound Red Dragon rotisserie oven, the only one of its kind in the U.S.

To make them, the bakery puts an apple or pear on its patented spit, bakes it in its rotisserie oven, then infuses it with cinnamon cream and coats it with a special toffee glaze and a dash of sea salt. □

Our Picks

SF BALLET NUTCRACKER AND CRONES FOR THE HOLIDAYS (BELOW)

Take 5

BY LAUREN GALLAGHER • SF EXAMINER

As usual, there's a wonderful but bewildering amount of events this holiday season. Here are five can't-misses that offer you the full range of the season's offerings.

MARK FOEHRINGER'S NUTCRACKER SWEETS

The local troupe's abbreviated, family-oriented 50-minute whirlwind rendition of the seasonal ballet has a great contemporary twist and Oakland East Bay Symphony conductor Michael Morgan directing a live chamber orchestra. Children of all ages are invited to the vibrant — and increasingly popular — production.

Dec. 7-24; $18 to $28

Southside Theater, Building D, Fort Mason, Marina Boulevard and Buchanan Street, SF.

(800) 838-3006, nutcrackersweets.org

SAN FRANCISCO BALLET *NUTCRACKER*

The annual holiday favorite is presented by the city's biggest ballet company — which has which has been performing *Nutcracker* for 69 years — for a three-week run. In the glitzy production, the story takes place in 1915 during the San Francisco World's Fair; the "Waltz of the Flowers" is set in the glass Conservatory of Flowers, and the snow scene is a dazzling flurry.

Dec. 11-29; $25-$315

War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness Ave., S.F.

(415) 865-2000, www.sfballet.org

DIANE REEVES

The elegant jazz songstress, winner of three Grammy Awards, charms and seduces fans with her unique style, R&B influence, and improvisational prowess. Her one-night stand with the San Francisco Symphony — timed to get everyone in the holiday spirit — is conducted by Sarah Hicks and features jazz standards and seasonal favorites.

7:30 p.m. Dec. 11; $15-$85

Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Ave., S.F.

(415) 864-6000, www.sfsymphony.org

CRONES FOR THE HOLIDAYS: THE SEQUEL

Terry Baum (a slightly world-renowned lesbian playwright) and Carolyn Myers (retired warrior princess of comedy) — aka Crackpot Crones — appear in a raunchy vaudevillian variety show, a follow-up to last year's hit holiday production. Comedy, sing-alongs, improvisation, and subversive humor are on the menu; skits and songs include "Moishe the Green-Nosed Herring," "The Twelve Days of Family Insults."

Opens Dec. 14; 3 and 8 p.m. Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays; closes Dec. 29; $15 to $20

EXIT Theatre, 156 Eddy St., S.F.,

(800) 838-3006, www.brownpapertickets.com

SWELL NOEL

Accompanied by pianist and music director Ken Muir, charismatic cabaret artist Craig Jessup sings favorite tunes by Noël Coward, Jacques Brel, Stephen Sondheim, the Gershwins, and Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart — along with holiday classics and original songs.

7:30 p.m. Dec. 17-21, 5 p.m. Dec. 22; $25-$32

Aurora Theatre, 2081 Addison St., S.F.

(510) 843-4822, www.auroratheatre.org □

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Our Picks

No reruns!

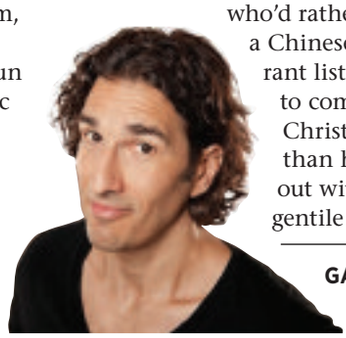
BY JOE ESKENAZI • SF WEEKLY

All right, we'll admit it: When George Bailey careens through town during the dénouement of *It's a Wonderful Life* bellowing "Merry Christmas, Bedford Falls!" — yes, we do choke up ever so subtly. The first time. And the second. But not the 27th. And, therefore, it's a good thing to get out of the house and do holiday-related events that don't involve Turner Classic Movies. (That said, it *is* an annual treat to watch the Bumpus hounds make off with the Parker family turkey.)

For those who'd rather get out of the house sans internal combustion, there's always the holiday season **San Francisco Bike Party** (8pm, free. William McKinley statue, Panhandle, Golden Gate Park, SF. sfbikeparty.wordpress.com) on Dec. 6, the first Friday of the month. And, on the final Friday of the month — and the year — you can wear out the Santa suit one last time before it becomes utterly creepy for **Critical Mass** on Dec. 27 (5:30pm, Justin Herman Plaza, SF. sfcriticalmass.org). The fun part is, when the traffic light is the same color as Rudolph's nose, you don't even have to stop.

Those with an urge to do something consciously different this holiday season — or an earnest interest in sewage — can always head to the **Oceanside Wastewater Treatment Plant Tour** on Dec. 14 (10am, free. 3500 Great Highway, SF. www.sfwater.org). This, too, would be a novel place to wear one's Santa suit. Tell us how that goes.

Sewage isn't for everyone — but sewage-related humor is the basis of our entire civilization. For those who'd rather be in a Chinese restaurant listening to comedy on Christmas Day than hanging out with their gentile friends, there's always the 21st annual **Kung Pao Kosher Comedy** show, Dec. 24-26 — which comes with dinner, naturally (various times and prices. New Asia Restaurant, 772 Pacific Ave., SF. www.koshercomedy.com).



GARY GULMAN HEADLINES THE ANNUAL KUNG PAO KOSHER COMEDY SHOW.

Other annual favorites include the **San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus** shows on Dec. 6 at the SF's War Memorial Opera House and Dec. 24 at the Castro Theatre (www.sfgmc.org); **the Oakland Symphony's** Dec. 15 "Let Us Break Bread Together" extravaganza — featuring everyone from gospel choirs to klezmer bands (4pm, $15–$50. 2201 Broadway, Oakl. www.oebs.org); and **the San Francisco Symphony's** "Colors of Christmas" shows on Dec. 16, 17, and 18 (various times and prices. Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness, SF. www.sfsymphony.org). Ruben Studdard will be there. Fair warning.

Until then: Merry Christmas, Bedford Falls! □

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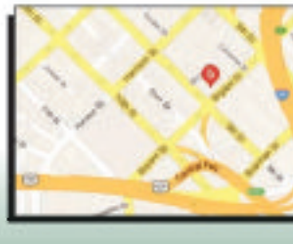

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Our Picks

DRAG QUEENS ON ICE, LEFT, AND BRIAN SETZER PLAYS CHRISTMAS ROCKS
DRAG QUEENS ON ICE PHOTO BY BOWERBIRD PHOTOGRAPHY

Something wild

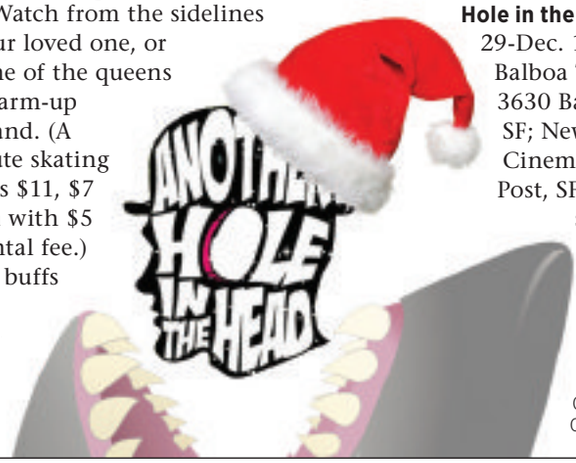
BY CHERYL EDDY • SF BAY GUARDIAN

The Bay Area has no shortage of good ol' Nutcrackers and holiday carol concerts for those who prefer their winter celebrations steeped in tradition. But, of course, we also have offbeat events galore — including some that fully qualify as counter programming. Read on for our picks.

One of our favorite dips, dives, and tumbles into the season — with swan-like grace, mind you — is **Drag Queens on Ice** (Dec. 12, 8-9:30pm, free. Union Square Ice Rink, www.unionsquareicerink.com). A be-feathered bevy of the city's beloved gender illusionists takes to the Union Square Ice Rink for a show of (often) death-defying twirls and leaps. You can just imagine the costumes. Watch from the sidelines with your loved one, or join some of the queens at the warm-up beforehand. (A 90-minute skating session is $11, $7 children with $5 skate rental fee.)

Film buffs looking for alternatives to the season's glut of awards fodder (except *12 Years a Slave* — seriously, that one's awesome) can turn their attentions to the San Francisco Film Society's **Cinema by the Bay Festival** (Nov. 22-24, $10-25, Roxie Theater, 3117 16th St, SF; www.sffs.org), which opens with (snake-handler alert!) *Holy Ghost People*, a new thriller from local Mitchell Altieri, one-half of filmmaking team the Butcher Brothers. Another don't-miss pick is Finnish filmmaker Susanna Helke's doc about San Francisco's homeless gay youths, *American Vagabond*.

And one more for film buffs (and bored relatives): Just post-Turkey Day, the SF IndieFest unspools the 10th annual **Another Hole in the Head** (Nov. 29-Dec. 19, $10-12, Balboa Theater, 3630 Balboa, SF; New People Cinema, 1746 Post, SF; www.sfindie.com), because nothing goes better with



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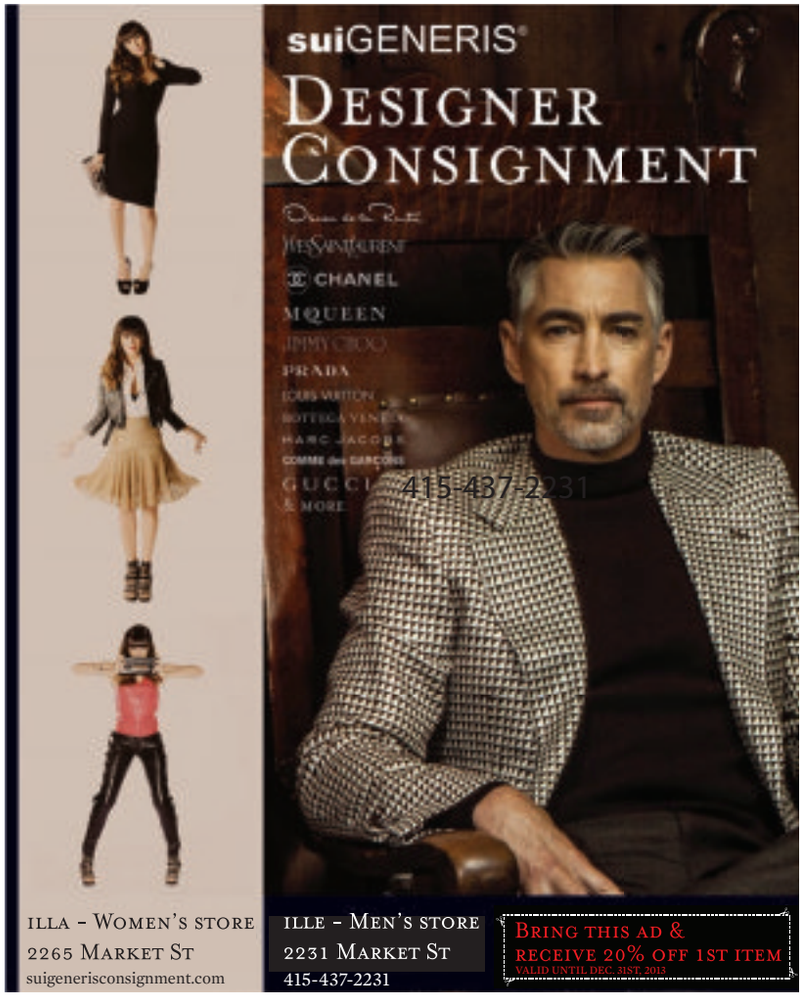

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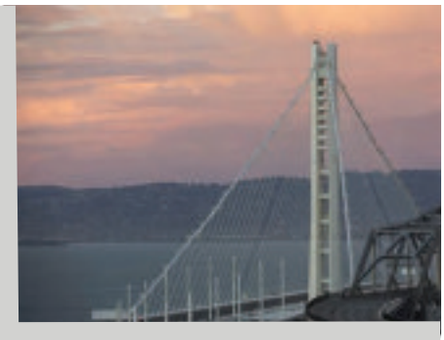

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SANTA SKIVVIES PHOTO BY RICK GERHARTER; SANTACON PHOTO BY BOWERBIRD PHOTOGRAPHY

SOMETHING WILD, CONTINUED>>

leftover turducken than horror genre flicks. Standouts include buzzy indie *The Dirties* (the school-shooting tale won multiple awards at Slamdance) and a rare, 35mm screening of toothy 1975 classic *Jaws*.

Stage junkies unafraid of spangled Christmas sweaters need look no further than the welcome return of **The Golden Girls: The XMAS Episodes** (Dec. 5-22, $30, Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th, SF; www.trannyshack.com), which transforms the best show ever set in Miami — sorry, Don Johnson — into live entertainment. (The fiesty, fabulous seniors are portrayed by Heklina, Cookie Dough, Matthew Martin, and Pollo Del Mar.)

And speaking of tropical climates, this year's **Dance-Along Nutcracker** is themed "Nutcrackers of the Caribbean!" (Dec 14-15, $10-50, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission, SF; www.dancealongnutcracker.org). The beloved Bay Area tradition, with music performed by the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, has shows aimed at both kids and grown-ups (including a piratical "Captain's Ball Gala"). Ho ho ho ... and a bottle of rum!

Or maybe you'd rather run that turkey and pie off, before you dive right into that Christmas pudding. Why not do it in your underwear, for charity? The annual **Santa Skivvies Run** (Dec. 15, noon, $35. Meet at Lookout Bar, 1600 Market, SF.) raises money for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and shows off that hot-as-gravy bod of yours, and hundreds of others. Just make sure you're not too hungover from the previous day's **SantaCon** (Dec. 14, details announced three days prior at www.santacon.info), during which inebriated packs of costumed Santas roam the city, causing harmless mischief.

Of course, no matter what denomination, you're going to be tempted to do some shopping this season. That's because every single thing in the universe is screaming "SHOP!" at you. Take it as an opportunity to support some local manufacturing peeps — especially at the **SF Made Holiday Gift Fair** (Dec. 7 and 8, 10am-5pm, free. Fleet Room, Fort Mason Center, SF. www.sfmade.org). Launched by one of the founders of Rickshaw Bagworks, SF Made showcases more than 50 vendors of locally made goods, including chocolate, jewelry, body products, and other giftable goodies.

Finally, there'll be plenty of rockin' around the Christmas tree when the Brian Setzer orchestra slides into town for its annual swingin' shindig, **Christmas Rocks** (Dec. 24, doors 7pm, show 8pm. $49.50–$69.50, all ages. The Warfield, 982 Market, SF. www.thewarfieldtheatre.com). The rockabilly star's big band sound will light up the night, right before that big bearded man slides down your chimney. □

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Our Picks

SHAWN RYAN PERFORMS AT HELP IS ON THE WAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

Gay apparent

BY JIM PROVENZANO • BAY AREA REPORTER

Hallmark's idiotic attempt to replaces the word "gay" from the lyric "Don we now our gay apparel" with the banal "fun" on one of its ornaments has left the greeting card conglomorate looking quite like an anti-gay Grinch. But never fear. We homos would never pay $12.95 for such a piece of junk, and our holiday celebrations have plenty of fun.

Dec. 2 and 3, **Donna Sachet's Songs of the Season** gives to others through donations while giving to you, the audience, with a night of holiday-themed songs by local vocalists, including Sachet. Enjoy songs, cocktails, a post-show reception, and a fabulous cityscape view at Sir Francis Drake Hotel's Starlight Room, 450 Powell, SF. 8pm both nights. www.songsoftheseason.net.

Dec 6, The **San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus** performs its annual holiday concert at Davies Symphony Hall. The chorus follows up that concert with its annual series of shows at the Castro Theatre. For those who won't be traveling elsewhere to visit family, biological or otherwise, spending Christmas night in the Castro with the biggest gay men's chorus in the world is a special experience. $30–$50. Dec. 25, 26, and 27 at 5pm, 7pm and 9pm. 429 Castro, SF. www.sfgmc.org.

Dec. 9, the Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation's annual **Help is on the Way for the Holidays** once again gathers outstanding vocalists and comics for an enjoyable potpourri of styles, while benefitting local charities (this year Positive Resource Center and Maitri Compassionate Care). Among the "fun" and gay performers are Shawn Ryan, Jai Rodriguez, Bruce Vilanch, and Jason Brock, along with straight allies Sharon McNight, Carly Ozard, Debbie Boone, and other extra-talented singers. The post-show gala reception at the swanky Adagio Hotel (550 Geary, SF.) will offer a sleighfull of holiday cheer. $45–$1,000. 7:30pm. Marines' Memorial Theater, 609 Sutter, SF. www.reaf.org.

Dec. 13 and 14, enjoy several class acts as Russ Lorenson

CONTINUES ON PAGE 34 >>

KATYA SMIRNOFF-SKYY IN HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS.

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featuring SF Opera Adler Fellow **Marina Harris**
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Our Picks

SHARON MCNIGHT PERFORMS AT DONNA SACHET'S SONGS OF THE SEASON, LEFT, AND THE KINSEY SICKS STAR IN *AMERICA'S NEXT TOP BACHELOR HOUSEWIFE CELEBRITY HOARDER MAKEOVER STAR GONE WILD!*

GAY APPARENT, CONTINUED>>

returns to town for his eighth annual **Christmas in San Francisco** concert at Pa'ina Lounge and Restaurant. Vocalists Wesla Whitfield, Mike Greensill, and Veronica Klaus offer their takes on traditional and pop holiday tunes. $25–$45. 7pm. 1865 Post, SF. christmasinsanfrancisco2013.eventbrite.com.

Dec. 13, join dot429 members at their **Reason to Party Winter Gala**. The LGBT networking group will raise funds for the Colon Cancer Alliance and its Never Too Young campaign. You get to enjoy schmoozing with other cocktail-attired professionals while enjoying the sweeping views at the Grand Hyatt's Skyline Room. $50–$200. 8PM-1am. 36th floor, 345 Stockton, SF. www.nevertooyoung.eventbrite.com.

Dec. 18 and 19, Feinstein's at the Nikko gets some heartwarming holiday camp, as Connie Champagne performs her annual holiday show **Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas: An Evening with Connie Champagne as Judy Garland** (Dec. 18, 8pm, $25–$35.). The next night, Russian drag exiled royal Katya Smirnoff-Skyy brings her holiday spectacular to the swanky lounge. Both artists blend earnest vocals and a graceful wit to their characters. (Dec. 19, 8pm, $25–$35) Hotel Nikko, 222 Mason, SF. www.feinsteinssf.com.

Dec. 19, the **Chanticleer** group brings its Grammy Award-winning vocals to a beautiful church setting at Grace Cathedral. Chanticleer performs evocative traditional holiday music going back centuries. While not particularly gay, the ensemble has produced some notable gay vocalists like singer Matt Alber. The group also performs at other venues throughout the Bay Area, but the Grace Cathedral concert should please even the least religious of fans with its beautiful setting. $15–$50. 7:30pm. 1100 California, SF. www.chanticleer.org.

Dec. 22, jazz saxophonist **Dave Koz** performs with guest musicians Oleta Adams, Jonathan Butler, and Keiko Matsui. Koz, who just so happens to be gay, dispels the idea that we gays only like circuit music. 8pm. 982 Market, SF. (888) 929-7849. www.thewarfieldtheatre.com.

Dec. 28, The Kinsey Sicks, America's favorite drag a cappella quartet, returns with a wacky new show, ***America's Next Top Bachelor Housewife Celebrity Hoarder Makeover Star Gone Wild!*** The faux-reality show-themed musical blends four-part harmonies, cultural parodies and bouffant wigs. $25–$40. 8pm. 429 Castro, SF. (415) 392-4400. www.cityboxoffice.com.

Oh, no! Your relatives from Flyoverville have swooped into town and want to "see a show," which means one with no nudity or jokes that are too sarcastic. Take them to **Steve Silver's *Beach Blanket Babylon***, the decades-running musical revue with contemporary song parodies and a few beloved musical chestnuts. Special holiday-themed shows are playing, including the adorable dancing Christmas trees. Special New Year's Eve shows include champagne and truffles. $65–$190. Various times. 678 Green St. 421-4222. www.beachblanketbabylon.com. □

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Holiday Gala

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Events

Holiday to-do list

HAPPENINGS

PIER 39 TREE LIGHTING CELEBRATION

Visits from Disney characters and choral performances accompany the 60-foot tree-lighting, at 6pm both days.
WHEN: Noon to 6:30pm Nov. 23-Nov. 24
Tickets: Free
WHERE: Pier 39, Beach Street at The Embarcadero, SF
CONTACT: (415) 421-2259, www.pier39.com

GREAT DICKENS CHRISTMAS FAIR & VICTORIAN HOLIDAY PARTY

The one-of- a-kind event, in its 35th season, showcases more than three acres of exhibition halls transformed into a brilliant facsimile of Victorian London circa 1865.
WHEN: Opens Nov. 23, 10am to 7pm Saturdays-Sundays and Nov. 29; closes Dec. 22
WHERE: Cow Palace, 2600 Geneva Ave., Daly City
TICKETS: $12 to $30, passes available
CONTACT: (800) 510-1558, ext. 114 or visit www.dickensfair.com

'TIS THE SEASON FOR SCIENCE

Reindeer rendezvous — an opportunity to observe and learn about live caribou — is among the special winter activities presented for the holidays.
WHEN: Opens Nov. 27, 9:30am to 5pm Mondays-Saturdays, 11am to 5pm Sundays; closes Jan. 5
WHERE: California Academy of Sciences, 55 Music Concourse Drive, Golden Gate Park, SF
TICKETS: $19.95 to $29.95
CONTACT: (415) 379-8000, www.calacademy.org

SPCA HOLIDAY WINDOWS

The San Francisco SPCA launches its 26th event, during which adorable adoptable cats and dogs will grace Macy's storefront windows.
WHEN: 5pm Nov. 22 for launch, ends Jan. 5
WHERE: Macy's, Stockton and O'Farrell streets, SF
TICKETS: Free
CONTACT: www.sfspca.org

HANUKKAH CANDLELIGHTING

The Jewish Community Center of San Francisco celebrates the holiday of lights commemorating the Jews' defeat of the Greeks in ancient times.
WHEN: 4:30pm Nov. 27-Dec.4, except not Nov. 28 or Nov. 30
WHERE: Jewish Community Center of San Francisco, 3200 California St., SF
TICKETS: Free
CONTACT: (415) 292-1233, www.jccsf.org/Hanukkah

ACADEMY OF SCIENCE HOLIDAY SHOWS

Cultural groups, musicians, and dancers appear among local talent scheduled: Yup'ik Eskimo performer Chuna McIntyre, Golden Gate Carolers, Chris Bradley Jazz Band, and San Francisco Youth Ballet.
WHEN: 12:30 and 2:30pm Nov. 29 through Jan. 5
WHERE: California Academy of Sciences, 55 Music Concourse Drive, Golden Gate Park, SF
TICKETS: $19.95 to $29.95
CONTACT: www.calacademy.org/holidays

MACY'S CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Judith Hill, finalist from "The Voice," the San Francisco Boy's Choir, and the Glide Ensemble entertain before the 24th annual lighting of the 80-foot tree, at 6:40pm.
WHEN: 6pm Nov. 29
WHERE: Union Square, Powell and Geary streets, SF
CONTACT: www.unionsquareshop.com/TreeLightingUnionSquare.html

FAMILY HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

The event includes include wine, dinner, music, dancing and candle-lighting.
WHEN: 4pm Dec.1
WHERE: Jewish Community Center of San Francisco, 3200 California St., SF
TICKETS: $20, $5 for children
CONTACT: (415) 292-1233, jccsf.org/Hanukkah

SANTAFEST

Children of Shelter — a group serving homeless children — hosts its 12th annual family party featuring holiday crafts, gingerbread house decorating, and Santa photos.
WHEN: 9am Dec. 7
WHERE: Golden Gate Club, 135 Fisher Loop, Presidio of SF
TICKETS: $125 and up
CONTACT: http://www.childrenofshelters.org

HOLIDAY CRAFTS DAY

The family day of make-and-take crafts, ideal for seasonal decorations and holiday gifts, includes a performance of the Daniel Da Vinci Comedy Circus Show at 2 p.m.
WHEN: 10am Dec. 7
WHERE: Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way, SF
TICKETS: $3 and up
CONTACT: (415) 554-9600, www.randallmuseum.org

BAZAAR BIZARRE

The locally produced art and craft show, in its sixth year, hosts a holiday edition featuring quality handmade goods, DIY workshops, and a raffle.
WHEN: 11am to 6pm Dec. 7-8
WHERE: Concourse Exhibition Center, East Hall, 620 Seventh St., SF
TICKETS: Free
CONTACT: www.bazaarbizarre.org

UNION STREET FANTASY OF LIGHTS

The annual festivity includes the Snow

CONTINUES ON PAGE 39 >>

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Black Leather Is Always in Fashion .....
—Design Director Skip Pas

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HAPPENINGS

CONT>>

Queen leading a charity toy drive, Santa and his elves, costumed characters, face painting, cupcake decorating, reindeer, and the glittering Cudworth Mansion.
WHEN: 3 to 7pm Dec. 7
WHERE: Union Street between Van Ness Avenue and Steiner Street, SF
CONTACT: www.unionstreetsf.com

OLD TIME MARITIME CHRISTMAS

Visitors will experience Christmas in the year 1901, and meet and talk with captains, wives, and crews aboard historic ships on Hyde Street Pier. Lamplit guided tours leave every 20 minutes from the entrance to Hyde Street Pier, with the final tour beginning 7:40pm.
WHEN: 6 to 9pm Dec. 14
WHERE: Hyde Street Pier, SF
TICKETS: Free, reservations required
CONTACT: (415) 447-5000, hydestreetlivinghistory.org

CLASSICAL

CLERESTORY CHRISTMAS

The nine-member local male chorus performs an all-American holiday program, including works by Morten Lauridsen, William Billings, Ray Charles, and signature classics.
WHEN: 8pm Nov. 30
WHERE: St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell St., SF
TICKETS: $15 to $25
CONTACT: (800) 810-2063, www.clerestory.org

SF GIRLS CHORUS

"Chorus of the Bells" and other traditional favorites make up the group's holiday concert.
WHEN: 8pm Dec. 6
WHERE: First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley
TICKETS: $26 to $36
CONTACT: (415) 392-4400, www.cityboxoffice.com

SF BACH CHOIR

Rarely heard 16th-century works by Michael Praetorius, Hans Leo Hassler, Jacob Handl, and William Byrd are featured in the 2013 presentation "In Dulci Jubilo! A Candlelight Christmas."
WHEN: 7pm Dec. 7; 4pm Dec. 8
WHERE: Calvary Presbyterian Church, 2515 Fillmore St., SF
TICKETS: $25 to $30
CONTACT: (855) 473-2224, www.sfbach.org

OAKLAND INTERFAITH GOSPEL CHOIR

The group's 28th annual holiday concert, directed by Terrance Kelly, features special guests Tuck & Patti and Imani Ya Watume Liturgical Dance Company.
WHEN: 7:30pm Dec. 7
WHERE: Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland
TICKETS: $12 to $42
CONTACT: (800) 745-3000, www.paramounttheatre.com

SF CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

Ragnar Bohlin directs the conservatory's chamber choir ensemble in a sacred and secular Christmas concert.
WHEN: 8pm Dec. 7
WHERE: Concert Hall, 50 Oak St., SF
TICKETS: Free
CONTACT: (415) 864-7326, www.sfcm.edu

A CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS

Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys celebrates its centenary with a program including Benjamin Britten's St. Nicolas cantata, holiday classics, and works by choirmaster Richard Purvis.
WHEN: 3pm Dec. 14-15
WHERE: Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St., SF
TICKETS: $15 to $50
CONTACT: (415) 392-4400, www.cityboxoffice.com

RAGAZZI CONTINUO

The a cappella men's choir, composed of alumni of Ragazzi Boys Chorus, presents "Mary Had a Baby: A Christmas Celebration," featuring songs dedicated to Mary by Kaj-Erik Gustafsson, Morten Lauridsen, and Robert Shaw.
WHEN: 7:30pm Dec. 15, 2:30pm Dec. 22
WHERE: Christ Church Parish, 770 North El Camino Real, San Mateo on Dec.15; Trinity St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 1668 Bush St., SF, on Dec. 22
TICKETS: $15 to $20
CONTACT: (650) 342-8785, www.ragazzicontinuo.org

CHANTICLEER

For the 36th year, the Grammy Award-winning male choir performs a joyful recounting of the Christmas story in the gilded, Baroque-style church.
WHEN: 8pm Dec. 15 and Dec. 22
WHERE: St. Ignatius Church, University of San Francisco, 650 Parker St., SF
TICKETS: $35 to $65
CONTACT: (415) 392-4400, www.cityboxoffice.com

ST. DOMINIC'S SOLEMN MASS CHOIR

The church choir performs Benjamin Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols," Gerald Finzi's "Pastoral Eclogue," and sing-along carols accompanied by strings and harp.
WHEN: 7:30pm Dec. 16
WHERE: St. Dominic's Catholic Church, 2390 Bush St., SF
TICKETS: Free
CONTACT: (415) 567-7824, www.stdominics.org

CELTIC YULETIDE CELEBRATION

Using traditional Celtic instruments — harp, pennywhistle, accordion, mandolin, and more — Golden Bough plays old world carols and seasonal winter music from Ireland and Scotland.
WHEN: 8pm Dec. 20
WHERE: Old First Presbyterian Church, 1751 Sacramento St., SF
TICKETS: $14 to $17
CONTACT: (415) 474-1608, www.oldfirstconcerts.org

CONTINUES ON PAGE 40 >>

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Holiday Events

CLASSICAL

CONT>>

SF RENAISSANCE VOICES

The free family Christmas concert program, "A Service of Lessons & Carols," is based on a tradition that began in 1918 at King's College in Cambridge, England.
WHEN: 7:30pm Dec. 21
WHERE: Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1329 Seventh Ave., SF
TICKETS: Free
CONTACT: (415) 664-2543, www.sfrvoices.org

KITKA'S WINTERSONGS

Sacred and secular tunes from Slavic, Baltic, Balkan, Jewish, and Bosnian-Muslim traditions make up women's vocal ensemble KITKA's diverse holiday program.
WHEN: 8pm Dec. 21
WHERE: Old First Presbyterian Church, 1751 Sacramento St., SF
TICKETS: $15 to $25
CONTACT: (415) 474-1608, www.oldfirst-concerts.org

SF SYMPHONY

"'Twas the Night" features carols and sing-alongs with members of the SF Symphony Chorus and Orchestra and soprano Lisa Vroman.
WHEN: 4pm Dec. 22, 8pm Dec. 23, 11am Dec. 24
WHERE: Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Ave., SF
CONTACT: (415) 864-6000, www.sfsymphony.org

MAGNIFICAT

In collabation with the Whole Noyse Renaissance Wind Band, the early music group presents "A Venetian Christmas Mass" including works by Andrea Gabrieli and Giovanni Gabrieli.
WHEN: 4pm Dec. 22
WHERE: St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell St., SF
TICKETS: $30 to $35
CONTACT: www.sfems.org

POPS

ANNUAL HOLIDAY FESTIVAL/JAM

Maya Angelou, Valerie Simpson, Judith Hill, and more join the GLIDE Ensemble and Change Band for the benefit holiday show "Celebrate50," marking GLIDE's 50 years of community service in the Tenderloin.
WHEN: 7pm Dec. 4
WHERE: War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness Ave., SF
TICKETS: $75 to $500
CONTACT: (415) 674-6117, www.glide.org

CHRISTMAS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Singer Russ Lorenson's annual jingle-jazzy holiday show features guests Wesla Whitfield, Mike Greensill, and Veronica Klaus.
WHEN: 7:30pm Dec. 13-14
WHERE: Pa'ina Lounge & Restaurant, 1865 Post St., SF
TICKETS: $25 to $45
CONTACT: (415) 674-3863, www.christmasinsf.com

CLAIRDEE CHRISTMAS EVE CONCERT

The jazzy soul singer appears in her 11th annual holiday show.
WHEN: 8pm Dec 24
WHERE: Yoshi's, 1330 Fillmore St., SF
TICKETS: $20
CONTACT: (415) 655-5600, www.yoshis.com

HOLIDAY DANCE

THE VELVETEEN RABBIT

For the 27th year, ODC/Dance presents its adaptation of the classic children's book, featuring troupe members and ODC/Dance students. A milk-and-cookies party, which requires a separate $10 ticket, follows the Dec. 1 performance.
WHEN: Nov. 29-Dec. 15
WHERE: Lam Research Theater, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 700 Howard St., SF
TICKETS: $16 to $75
CONTACT: (415) 978-2787, www.ybca.org, www.odcdance.org

JEWISH NUTCRACKER

Choreographer Katy Alaniz Rous sets the story of Hanukkah to excerpts from the traditional "Nutcracker" performed by World Dance Fusion.
WHEN: 2 and 6:30pm Dec. 6-7, 2pm Dec. 8
WHERE: Children's Creativity Museum Theater, 221 Fourth St., SF
TICKETS: $18 to $28
CONTACT: (800) 838-3006, www.jewish-nutcracker.com

SF BALLET

For 69 years, the city's premiere ballet company stages its lavish, glittering production, the longest-running "Nutcracker" in America.
WHEN: Dec. 11-29
WHERE: War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness Ave., SF
TICKETS: $25 to $210
CONTACT: (415) 865-2000, www.sfballet.org

DANCE-ALONG NUTCRACKER

The San Francisco Lesbian-Gay Freedom Band presents "Nutcrackers of the Caribbean," its annual participatory event in which families and children join dancers in a pirate-themed twirling bonanza.
WHEN: 2 and 7pm Dec. 14, 11am and 3pm Dec. 15
WHERE: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St., SF
TICKETS: $10 to $50
CONTACT: (415) 978-2787, www.ybca.org

SMUIN BALLET

Smuin's pop-friendly romp "The Christmas Ballet" has music from Elvis Presley, Mozart, Ray Charles, and the Chieftans and choreography by Val Caniparoli, Robert Dekkers, Amy Siewert, and Michael Smuin.
WHEN: Dec. 18-28
WHERE: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 700 Howard St., SF
TICKETS: $24 to $64
CONTACT: (415) 912-1899, www.smuinballet.org

CONTINUES ON PAGE 42 >>

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Holiday Events

CONT>>

HOLIDAY THEATER

THE JEWELRY BOX: A GENUINE CHRISTMAS STORY

In a prequel to his hit show "Not a Genuine Black Man," storyteller Brian Copeland tells what happens when, as a youngster in the 1970s, he headed to the "mean streets" of Oakland to buy his mom a Christmas present.
WHEN: Nov. 23-Dec. 28
WHERE: Marsh, 1062 Valencia St., SF
TICKETS: $15 to $100
CONTACT: (415) 282-3055, www.themarsh.org

FIESTA NAVIDENA

Carolina Lugo's and Carolé Acuña's Ballet Flamenco presents a holiday show.
WHEN: 6:30pm Dec.1, Dec. 7, Dec. 15, Dec. 21-22, Dec. 28-29
WHERE: Peña Pachamama, 1630 Powell St., SF
TICKETS: $15 to $21
CONTACT: (800) 838-3006, www.brownpapertickets.com

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

American Conservatory Theater's 37th annual presentation based on Dickens' novel, adapted by Paul Walsh and Carey Perloff, stars the great James Carpenter as Ebenezer Scrooge.
WHEN: Dec. 6-28
WHERE: American Conservatory Theater, 415 Geary St., SF
TICKETS: $20 to $95
CONTACT: (415) 749-2228, www.act-sf.org

CINDERELLA

The African-American Shakespeare Company's enchanting take on the classic fairy tale has become a popular Bay Area holiday tradition.
WHEN: Dec. 7-22
WHERE: Buriel Clay Theater, African-American Art & Culture Complex, 762 Fulton St., SF
TICKETS: $12.50 to $40
CONTACT: (800) 838-3006, www.african-americanshakes.org

LA POSARELA

Community Music Center's Mexican Christmas musical — a Mission District take on the nativity story — is a bilingual production blending the Mexican folk traditions of las Posadas and las Pastorelas with music, social commentary, and humor.
WHEN: 1 and 5pm Dec. 8
WHERE: Brava Theater Center, 2781 24th St., SF
TICKETS: $5 to $7
CONTACT: www.brava.org

CIRQUE DREAM HOLIDAZE

An international cast of 30 artists performs astonishing feats: Gingerbread men flip in mid-air, toy soldiers march on wires, snowmen balance, icemen sculpt, penguins spin, puppets dance, and reindeer soar high.
WHEN: Dec.11-15
WHERE: Curran Theatre, 445 Geary St., SF
TICKETS: $45 to $160
CONTACT: (888) 746-1799, www.shnsf.com

IT'S CHRISTMAS, CAROLE

The world-premiere human cartoon starring charming comic Sara Moore tells the story of Carole, a grumpy management secretary working for Scrooge Industries in modern-day San Francisco who is visited by spirits including The Ghost of Christmas Breaks and The Ghost of Christmas Bonuses.
WHEN: Dec. 12-22
WHERE: Creativity Theater, Yerba Buena Gardens, 221 Fourth St., SF
TICKETS: $10 to $20
CONTACT: www.itschristmascarole.com

KILLING MY LOBSTER WINTER FOLLIES

The sketch comedy troupe's new original holiday production tackles topics including the fourth wise man, the uniqueness of snowflakes, and "how to sell Kwanzaa to Caucasians."
WHEN: Dec. 12-15
WHERE: Z Below, 470 Florida St., SF
TICKETS: $20
CONTACT: www.killingmylobster.com

TOO MANY TAMALES

The Marsh Youth Theatre's Mexican-themed holiday presentation — with puppets and dancing — is "Too Many Tamales," the local premiere of the play based on Gary Soto's novel about a wedding ring that goes missing when a woman takes time out to prepare tamales.
WHEN: Dec. 13-Jan. 4
WHERE: Marsh, 1062 Valencia St., SF
TICKETS: $15 to $35
CONTACT: (415) 282-3055, www.themarsh.org

COUNTESS KATYA SMIRNOFF-SKYY

San Francisco's favorite glamorous redhead, the drag alter-ego of J. Conrad Frank, appears in a "holiday spectacular" cabaret show of songs ranging from classic holiday fair to opera and disco.
WHEN: 8pm Dec. 19
WHERE: Feinstein's at the Nikko, 220 Mason St., SF
TICKETS: $25 to $35
CONTACT: (866) 663-1063, www.ticketweb.com

SWEET CAN PRODUCTIONS

Celebrating its fourth year, "Mittens and Mistletoe: A Winter Circus Cabaret," has become the charming and agile circus-theater troupe's holiday tradition.
WHEN: Dec. 20-Dec. 24
WHERE: Mission Dance Theater, 3316 24th St., SF
TICKETS: $15 to $50
CONTACT: (800) 838-3006, www.sweetcanproductions.com

PAULA POUNDSTONE CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

The iconic 1980s comedian performs her fourth annual holiday stand-up comedy show.
WHEN: 8pm Dec. 20
WHERE: Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, 3601 Lyon St., SF
TICKETS: $35 to $40
CONTACT: (800) 745-3000, www.ticketmaster.com □

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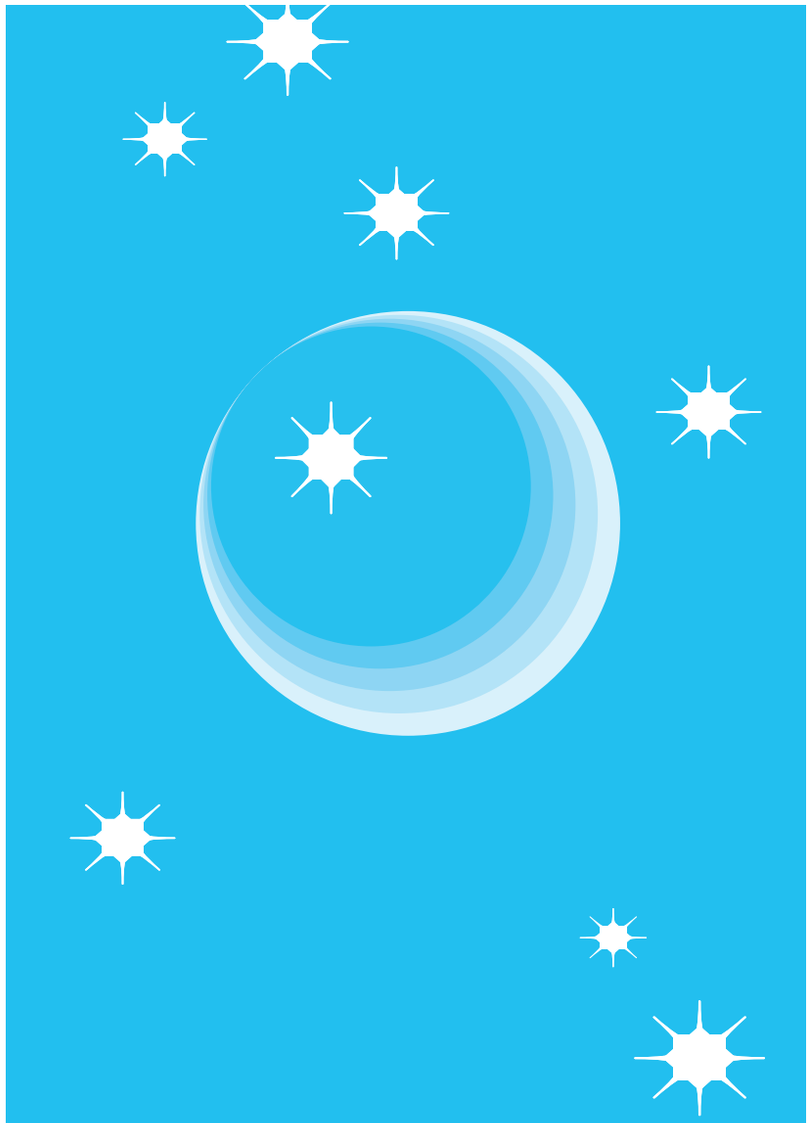

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Fri, Dec. 13 | 7–10pm | 18+

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waltdisney.org/animate-your-night

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15	16	17	18	19	20 7:30 COL	21 7:30 COL
22 2:15 COL	23	24	25	26	27 7:30 STK	28 7:30 STK
29 4:00 STK	30	31				

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December 14 • 7:30PM
Teddy Bear Toss
December 20 • 7:30PM
Stocking Giveaway
December 21 • 7:30PM
Snow Globe Giveaway
December 22 • 2:15PM
Defending the Blue Line Day
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IN GRAND STYLE:
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200 Larkin Street
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415.581.3500

Proximities was organized by the Asian Art Museum. Presentation at the Asian Art Museum is made possible with the generous support of Graue Family Foundation, Columbia Foundation, and an anonymous donor. Image: *Chris in Record Store* (detail), from the series *The Jangs*, 1973, by Michael Jang (American, b. 1951). Gelatin silver print, H. 11 x W. 14 in. Courtesy of the Stephen Wirtz Gallery.

In Grand Style was organized by the Asian Art Museum in collaboration with the National Museum of Korea and the National Palace Museum of Korea based on the exhibition *Scenes of Banquets and Ceremonies of the Joseon Period* held by the National Museum of Korea in 2009. Presentation at the Asian Art Museum is made possible with the generous support of Koret Foundation, Samsung, The Korea Foundation, The Bernard Osher Foundation, E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, Silicon Valley Bank, Jamie and Steve Chen, John and Barbara Osterweis, and Suno Kay Osterweis. Image: *Royal Protocol for King Jeongjo's Visit to His Father's Tomb in Hwaseong* (detail), 1800–1900. Korea, Joseon dynasty (1392–1910). Album; ink and colors on paper. *Courtesy of National Museum of Korea.*

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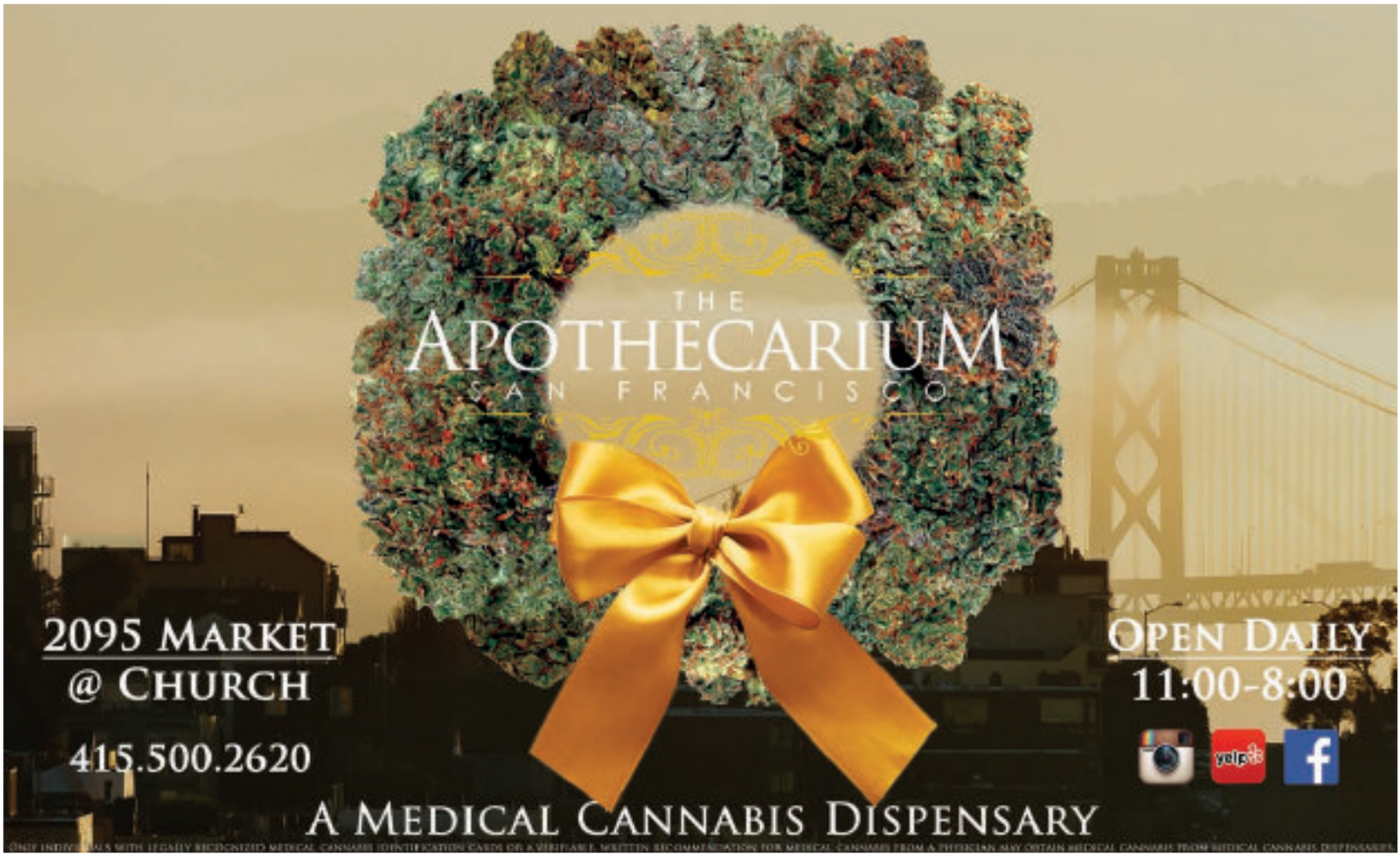

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